

**National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594**

Brief of Accident

Adopted 06/26/2003

DCA01MA017		01/27/2001	Strasburg, CO	Aircraft Reg No. N81PF	Time (Local): 00:37 UTC		
Make/Model:		Beech / 200		Crew Pass	Fatal	Serious	Minor/None
Engine Make/Model:		Pratt & Whitney Canada / PT6A-41			2	0	0
Aircraft Damage:		Destroyed		8	0	0	
Number of Engines:		2					
Operating Certificate(s):		None					
Type of Flight Operation:		Business					
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:		Part 91: General Aviation					
Last Depart. Point:		Broomfield, CO		Condition of Light:			
Destination:		Stillwater, OK		Weather Info Src: Weather Observation Facility			
Airport Proximity:				Basic Weather: Instrument Conditions			
Airport Name:		Unk/Nr		Lowest Ceiling: 200 Ft. AGL, Obscured			
Runway Identification:		Unk/Nr		Visibility: 1.00 SM			
Runway Length/Width (Ft):		Unk/Nr		Wind Dir/Speed: / 003 Kts			
Runway Surface:				Temperature (°C): -4			
Runway Surface Condition:				Precip/Obscuration:			
Pilot-in-Command		Age: 55		Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)				Total All Aircraft: 5116			
Commercial; Private; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land;				Last 90 Days: 50			
Instrument Ratings				Total Make/Model: Unk/Nr			
Airplane				Total Instrument Time: UnK/Nr			

The Board's full report is available at <http://www.nts.gov/publictn/publictn.htm>.

On January 27, 2001, about 1737 mountain standard time, a Raytheon (Beechcraft) Super King Air 200, N81PF, owned by North Bay Charter, LLC, and operated by Jet Express Services, crashed into rolling terrain near Strasburg, Colorado. The flight was operating on an instrument flight rules (IFR) flight plan under 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 91. The flight departed about 1718 from Jefferson County Airport (BJC), Broomfield, Colorado, with two pilots and eight passengers aboard. The pilot who occupied the left seat in the cockpit was solely responsible for the flight. The pilot who occupied the right seat in the cockpit, referred to in this report as the "second pilot," was not a required flight crewmember. N81PF was one of three airplanes transporting members of the Oklahoma State University (OSU) basketball team and associated team personnel to Stillwater Regional Airport (SWO), Stillwater, Oklahoma, after a game at the University of Colorado at Boulder that afternoon. All 10 occupants aboard N81PF were killed, and the airplane was destroyed by impact forces and a postcrash fire. Instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) prevailed at the time of the accident.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

DCA01MA017				
File No. 10486	01/27/2001	Strasburg, CO	Aircraft Reg No. N81PF	Time (Local): 00:37 UTC

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

1. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) ELECTRICAL SYSTEM - FAILURE

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.

The pilots spatial disorientation resulting from his failure to maintain positive manual control of the airplane with the available flight instrumentation. Contributing to the cause of the accident was the loss of a.c. electrical power during instrument meteorological conditions.